

REMARKS

Claims 1-16 are pending.

Claims 15 and 16 have been withdrawn as the result of an election of species requirement.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for stating that claims 10-13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 10-13 have been rewritten in independent form and should now be allowable.

PRIOR ART REJECTIONS

Claims 1 and 5-9¹ have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by newly cited Graham et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,751,879).

Claims 2-5, 9² and 14 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Graham.

Applicant traverses the above rejections because Graham et al. fails to disclose or suggest all of the claim limitations. Specifically, Graham et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least the following limitations of independent claim 1: “the plurality of cores are twisted in only one direction.”

¹ We believe the Examiner meant to reject claims 1 and 5-8 as being anticipated, because the Examiner concedes that Graham does not explicitly disclose the limitations of claim 9

² We believe the Examiner meant to reject claims 2-4, 9 and 14 as being obvious and not claim 5, because the Examiner asserts that claim 5 is anticipated.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT
U.S. APPLN. NO.: 10/648,275

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In Graham et al., unlike the claimed invention, the direction of twist reverses, rather than staying in the same direction. For example, see col. 7, line 61 to col. 8, line 16, which describes the "reverse-oscillated" lay of the component cables.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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